THE

WEEKLY INSPECTOR.

" Of those men who have overturned the Liberties of Republics, the greatest number
" have begun their career by paying an obsequious court to the People—commencing
" DEMAGOGUES, and ending TYRANTS." HAMILTON.

Vol. I.] NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1806. [No. 8.

POLITICAL.

An abridged view of " THOUGHTS AND REFLECTIONS ON THE PRESENT STATE OF AFFAIRS;" the original first published in the *Boston Repertory*.

No. 5.

(Continued from page 52.)

" THERE is nothing more obvious, (says the writer) or less maturely considered, than this formidable truth: If France should triumph over Great-Britain, American liberty will be in peril." It remains to be seen whether our leaders will prefer our liberty, or their own popularity. If, for the sake of the latter object, they choose to permit the country to remain defenceless, the people to be careless, because they are blind to danger, they play upon the brink of the precipice, " till the foundation of their power slides from under their feet." If Bonaparte prevails against England, and Mr. Jefferson prevails in his system of defenceless measures, the French Emperor will be our master, if he chooses. But Bonaparte would persuade, that France is satisfied with dominion, weary and exhausted with war, and seeks only to establish the " more glorious universal empire of the arts; and when she is no longer embarrassed in her beneficent designs by an obstinate and jealous antagonist, the world will then begin to enjoy peace without a disturber of its blessings."

" Is this, however, the nature of ambition? Is it an appetite that is choaked and cloyed, or made ravenous by its gluttony? A creation only once in six days, would not be made fast enough to keep pace with the growth of its desires.—The whole world is not wide enough for this giant to stretch his limbs in.

" Ambition contented with its limits! Have we seen the ocean so full that it would not drink up another river? Inquire of the winds whether the last storm has crippled their speed, that they will never blow again. Ask of the pestilence, whether, weary of havock, its iron heart relucts to tread once more its circle of destruction. Yet six months after the possession of the British navy by France, that ocean would swell beyond the Allegany ridge; that tempest would scatter blight and mildew over all our plains; that pestilence would cramp every heart with terror, and spot every honest face with contagion. We should see the temple of our liberty in ashes, or in sackcloth; and if we did not loathe life, it would be because we could endure to drag it on in servitude and disgrace."

" Who then will say that Bonaparte would not desire the empire of America; or who, that has not a slave's heart already, could view with calmness the almost irresistible means he possesses to obtain it without striking a blow? We have men among us who will view it with complacency, if not with joy: men, whom liberty cannot elevate, whom the whip of the oppressor cannot degrade."

Shall we be told that if Bonaparte possesses the British navy, he could not govern this country if he would? *Has he not governed it without that navy?* What is there to oppose his will? Have we at Washington a Roman senate, who, if the French Hannibal

should land here would make an auction of his camp? Is it conceivable that *they* should have the courage to resist, who have not the courage to prepare the means of resistance? Would those men resolve to face his legions who have quaked even at his minion's frown?"

The writer next states the case of Great-Britain being compelled to retire from the contest, leaving Bonaparte master of Europe, and solely anxious to be her master, and observes that his first care would be to strip her for ever of the means of renewing the contest — That his influence would then be still more predominant in America;—by a stroke with his pen he would cut off all intercourse with Great-Britain.—That the act prohibiting British manufactures after December next, would be more than sufficient for a precedent. Bonaparte would intimate his wishes to his tractable friends to permit that act to go into operation. This would be followed by acts still more vindictive, and it will be alleged that the perversity of the British government requires the measure.—That the states around France, which are called independent, dare not disobey him, but prohibit British manufactures at his intimation; but we have chosen the ignominy which they endure by restraint.

England humbled, General Turreau would be the only efficient man in our cabinet. France will accomplish whatever is possible by policy.—Her arms will not even be shown unseasonably.—We should be governed by influence, so long as Britain is allowed to preserve any part of her power. Thus the "British oak" would be girded, and the "sapless trunk" left to perish. —"We should thus help France more than if we joined her in the war."

Thus it was with Rome; states were called allies till broken to the yoke, and then erected into provinces.

We could not resist French influence; we could not endure it and remain free.

What is to be done?—Nothing! Nothing with rulers, who are merely fit to be prefects to Bonaparte.—Rulers who will not arm one ship, but will load ten with tribute, and attempt by submission to disarm a conqueror.

If Washington were at the head of affairs, we might hope to provide against danger like other nations, by preparing force and treasure—we should economise, but not be afraid of necessary expense—not provoke war, but study to avoid it; but to preserve peace, we should respect justice, and be prepared for war. The writer is aware that administration and its flatterers will misrepresent his sentiments. "If there is no danger, and would to heaven that could be made to appear, let these remarks pass for unreasonable." But if peace be made between France and Great-Britain, let those flatterers tell the people, "independence has its price, and expense in arms and ships would go beyond it—tell them slavery is cheaper and will give them rest."

"We will only add, this country might be safe if it *could* be wise. If it could resist the *influence* of France, it would baffle her arms."

—

Abstract of Foreign Intelligence.

THE man who can read the following, without emotions of apprehension and astonishment too powerful for words to express, is either a stupid madman, or a miserable misanthrope. To look danger like this in the face is no proof of courage, but insensibility. But Bonaparte's would-be *prefects* in this country, will undoubtedly sing pœans of congratulation to the conqueror, and proffer their services to direct to the vitals of their country the dagger of the ruthless despot, who has prostrated Europe, and is binding its inhabitants in chains more galling than ever before entered into the heart of tyrant to forge for "oppressed humanity."

From London papers from Aug. 17th to Aug. 21st, we learn that a final close has been put to Austrian greatness, and Austrian independence.

The whole German empire is at the feet of the conqueror. That mighty

fabric is now on the ground, and Europe yet trembles with the crash. The public law of Europe is overthrown and scattered to the winds of Heaven by the rude breath of the despot of the age.—A new system is to be introduced in Germany, and supported by all the force of intrigue and arms.—Bonaparte is hereafter to be considered the sole source and reservoir of German power.—The treaty of Westphalia and the treaties succeeding it, with all its appendages, which, guarantied by the other powers of Europe, and especially by France, gave an equal liberty, security, and independence, to all the states of the empire,—these are now mouldy parchments. They no longer hold together the equilibrium of power which has prevented the consolidation of Europe into one empire. France "calls up spirits from the vasty deep," aye, and "they come when they are called."—They rise with the "baby brow" of sovereignty.

—

August 21.—The Earl of Lauderdale has left Paris. Wagers have been laid that he will be in London before Sunday at noon.—Omnium fell yesterday to 4 and three quarters.

The English have landed at Callabria to the number of 12,000, and have been joined by the Insurgents.

French troops are increasing on the Inn, and French armies are advancing from all points to the Austrian frontiers.

In order that Prussia might render her compliance perfect, she has sent ambassadors to Bonaparte's new King of Naples, and the Duke of Cleves and Berg.

A great firing was heard at Deal on Tuesday night in the direction of Boulogne, which continued all night. It was rumoured that 33 of the enemy's large brigs had got into the outer roads, and our ships were firing at them.

"We anticipate, (says a morning paper) the indignation of our readers, and of the world, when they shall hear hat it is the fixed determination of Bonaparte to dismember the Spanish monarchy, and to annihilate that of Portugal, in favour of that profligate and abandoned traitor, the Prince of Peace.—That the provinces of Biscay, Navarre, Catalonia, and one half of Arragon, are to be consolidated as a kingdom for that infamous betrayer and enslaver of his country;—and that Portugal is held out to that miserable instrument of the French despot, the king of Spain, as a desirable compensation for his ancient domains."

"But it will readily be believed that so long as a drop of British blood circulates in the veins of a British minister, the abandonment of our ablest and best ally, will not be submitted to. We must therefore conclude that Lord St. Vincent and Gen. Simcoe are dispatched to that country, and will be followed by our fleets and armies, to oppose to the uttermost, this infamous project."

—

Paris, August 28th.—All the Austrian prisoners who were in the Wirtemberg states, and who were retained there in consequence of the obstacles which arose in the execution of the treaty of Presburg, have been released, and have now set out on their march home.

All the French troops of the grand army have received their marching order, to return to France.

The corps of Marshal Ney will cross the Rhine, over the bridge of New Brisack.

The corps of Marshals Mortier, Bernadotte, and Augereau, will cross the Rhine over the bridge of Mentz.

The corps of Marshal Sault, and the different reserves of cavalry, will cross the Rhine over the bridge of Strasburg.

The corps of Marshal Davaust, will cross the Rhine over the bridge of Spire.

Thus, before the end of September, the corps of the grand army will have evacuated Germany; and by the end of that month there will not be a single Frenchman remaining in it.

Several camps will be pitched round Paris, for the army during the fetes.

That of Meadon already contains twelve battallions, who have been encamped there for this week past. *Moniteur.*

THE CLOVEN FOOT!

The American Citizen of Saturday last has let out the views of his faction. This good old patriot of '76, (to wit Cheetham, lately imported with most of the crimes that have disgraced humanity on his head,) is inviting his good friends the French, to come and "scour our cities."

"We have (says this all that is infamous) a considerable number of men, chiefly dry-good merchants, who are partners or agents of British merchants. These men want to embroil us with France and Spain, and there is no lying they will stick at to provoke it; but they had better pack themselves off; for if Bonaparte should come as they predict, and ought to be afraid of, *he will trim their* jackets, and make them pay the expense."

Here is an express and direct invitation to Bonaparte to pour in his myriads upon us. And we have no government—no navy—no army—and a faction in favour of the French.

Among the most pernicious of the poisonous tenets of the French faction in the United States, may be numbered the maxim so often inculcated from Mr Jefferson down to Cheetham, that neither France nor any other European power will ever assail America, unless provoked by some outrage on our part—That we may stuff our pockets with gold, be exposed to a gang of robbers, and, by *treating them with civility*, escape without being plundered. Hence the clamour against fortifying our seaports; providing a military marine; or taking any measures for the defence of the nation. Now this is precisely what Bonaparte would wish, and what of course his creatures prescribe. Have we not reason then, to believe what Lyon sometime since asserted of his friend Duane, that these democratic editors are favourable to the view of Bonaparte; and ought such men to be tolerated by Americans who are not prepared for the lash of the oppressor?

Surely in the present state of the nation, we ought not a moment to hesitate to *send out of the country*, those foreigners who are inviting French troops to *scour our cities*. Can we possibly defend our country while we cherish a band of *traitors*, inviting the enemy, and directing him to the most vulnerable points of attack; and ready to designate the victims of his vengeance?

A writer in the People's Friend of the 16th inst. says:

"Mr. Turreau offered 900 dollars towards the establishment of a French paper in New-York. It is needless to deny this fact—I *was present when the money was paid!!*"

We observe with much pleasure, that great exertions are making throughout the United States to diffuse correct political information, without which, national liberty will soon become 'the shadow of a shade.' A weekly paper, to be entitled "the CAROLINA WEEKLY MESSENGER," is promised in Charleston, Carolina; its publication is to commence the first of November next. From the tone of its PROSPECTUS, we are induced to augur favourably of this paper, and we hope that it will obtain that patronage, which, from the specimen we have seen of the principles and talents of its editor, we are confident it will be found to deserve. The following is extracted from the prospectus.

"In a country where all power is derived immediately from the people; where the blessings of a good, or the evils of a bad government, are solely ascribable to their selection of the persons who administer it, it is of the first importance to the public welfare, prosperity, and tranquillity, that those from whom such power emanates should be well informed and enlightened. They should not only be thoroughly acquainted with the characters, principles, and talents, of those to whom they delegate their high authority; but they should after that authority is delegated and

exercised, know with perfect accuracy, in what manner the great trust has been fulfilled: in that they may according to the merits or demerits of the trustee, either reward him by a renewal of their confidence, or apply the wholesome corrective of dismission."

—

In the citizen of Wednesday last, a formidable accusation is preferred against the editor of this paper—nothing less than having come from Connecticut or its vicinity!! This is not true; but if it were, where is the crime? Cheetham will never *figure* as a *sharp shooter*, for he shuts his eyes, and lets off his blunderbuss at random.

—

A writer with the signature of Lysias, who has opened his battery of falsehoods under the flag of our imbecile administration, commences with several of a most abominable cast. We will present a specimen. "With respect to a national defence, our opponents may rest satisfied, that republicans are not averse to the fortification of our sea ports. That economy would be indefensible, which would risk the safety of our principal cities to the rapacity of invaders. Those who endeavour to censure the republican administration, will please to recollect *that the Federalists, who directed the Adams' cabinet attempted nothing.*"

Surely there can be but few men of any party so ignorant, as not to know that the federalists built and purchased a considerable number of armed ships, for national defence, which democrats have destroyed; and that a proposition to fortify our sea-ports was scouted out of congress by the democratic faction. —But there is no end refuting the falsehood which fill the columns of the citizen.

—

I am sick of the hypocritical cant of our demagogues, crying peace! peace! when there is no peace. Avoid war, of all things.—It is terrible, shocking, dreadful, awful, abominable, cruel, wicked, outrageous, and atrocious, to try to 'do harm' to our fellow-creatures. But how, in the name of all that is stupid, my dear democrats, is it possible to avoid war when your enemy attacks you. Spain gives us a blow on one cheek, France smites us on the other;—yet we are told to "let France alone."—The eagle of Liberty is perched on the hemlocks of Allegany, extends his wings o'er many a rood of the wilderness of the west, and if routed from his rookery, will find an "asylum" in the lake of the dismal swamp. Spain avoids war, and is plundered of her finest provinces; and her inhabitants are slaves to Bonaparte. —Prussia avoids war, and is little better than an appendage to the French empire.—Bonaparte respects no *rights* which are not enforced by *power*.—The laws of nations, and the faith of treaties are to him "*worm eaten codes.*" No! our land must bristle with bayonets, or be tenanted with slaves.

—

Earl St. Vincents is at Lisbon with six sail of the line and two frigates, it is thought, for the purpose of protecting the persons and property of British subjects, in case Portugal should be invaded by a French and Spanish army.

—

Trinidad, Sept. 20.—"Miranda has made himself master of Coro; the garrison of which, consisting of 200 fusileers, retreated without opposing him. If the English support him, he will give us more trouble than is generally supposed. On receiving this intelligence, the captain-general and intendent, marched with all the armed force; but before they can reach him he will be fortified so as to secure his retreat; for no doubt he will have chosen the best and most advantageous position, of the many the coast offers for defence, and therefore the consequences may be serious. It is not that there are any want of numbers well affected, to oppose him, but the country is entirely disarmed: and of what use is inclination without arms; to which we may add the total want of money, for we have not a real in the treasury."

Com. Advertiser.

Miranda, it is said, has defeated the captain-general of Caraccas, near Valencia. He is powerfully supported by the British, and two regiments are daily expected from England for his assistance.

—

Election in Pennsylvania has terminated, as Duane says, in his paper of the 16th, in favour of the democrats, who have succeeded in obtaining the democratic congressional ticket, the sheriff, the state senator, the county commissioner, and the assembly ticket of the county of Philadelphia, are all the highest on the poll.

From the U. S. Gazzette of the same date, we learn that "the democrats have completely succeeded in the election of their Sheriff—Messrs. Walbert and Lawler are the persons returned! There is little doubt of their having also carried the members of congress and the senator. The constitutional ticket for the select and common councils, and for representatives to the legislature, has been carried by a considerable majority."

—

AN ALLIANCE OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE WITH GREAT-BRITAIN.

Our weathercock (late Jacobin) politicians, who are always *exactly* right, *and more too*, are now for entering pell mell into *an alliance offensive and defensive with Great-Britain!!* In steering from Scylla, they would dash on Charybdis. A writer in the *Richmond Enquirer*, a paper established by Mr. Jefferson, has expressed his sentiments unequivocally on that subject.

"Such, he says, being the happy state of affairs with that country, I do not hesitate to say that it is the policy of the United States to form an *alliance offensive and defensive with Great-Britain*."

The editor of the Evening Post has given an opinion *seriatim* on this subject, in which we entirely concur. "By an offensive and defensive alliance, (says Mr. Coleman) is understood, an agreement between two nations to take part with each other, in all wars in which either may be engaged with a third power."

Where are now the opponents of the late British treaty, who flamed with indignation against the federalists for giving their sanction to a treaty with Great-Britain of amity and commerce merely; but which had no tendency to involve us in her disputes? If we are involved in a war against a common enemy, we are, so far as relates to that war, *virtually* allies, without any treaty like the proposed, between the nations. Should, however, a political connexion of the kind mentioned, be deemed advisable, there is the *staunch old friend* of Great-Britain, Mr. Munroe, the gentleman, who in 1794, wrote a letter to Mr. E. Randolph, *advising the imposition of a tax on the American people, for the purpose of assisting France to destroy the English nation*, ready on the ground, and who, out of the abundance of his consistency now says, (see page 47) "there exists a thousand reasons, which make it desireable for him to promote a becoming feeling of good will between Great-Britain and America."

—

The editor of this paper has been assailed from different quarters by his political opponents, from the pitiful paragraph writer in a paltry village paper, to the Herculean "Society of Gentlemen," who *club* their abilities for the Boston Anthology. By some he is denounced as an *imported hireling*; by others, as a *British agent*—the "vilest of tories," and worthy of "a suit of feathers and tar." From the various shapes which their malice assumes, he flatters himself that his labours are not wholly destitute of effect, but that he has attacked *vice* and *folly* in some of their vulnerable points, and thus elicited the shafts of their votaries. Whatever has fallen from the pen of Jacobin scribblers on either side of the Atlantic, has been sedulously circulated in the democratic newspapers throughout the United States; and lest open force should prove inefficient, they have made their approaches under *false colours*, and ought therefore, to be treat-

ed as pirates. One gentleman hammers out from "hard bound brains," a sorry article in New-York, sends it to London to be impressed with the *counterfeited stamp* of English *criticism*, smuggles it back to America, and shuffles it off as of genuine *British manufacture!* And other "*gentlemen*," *as they say*, accuse us of anachronisms, and other faults, which exist only in their own imaginations!

These little arts of little minds ought to be detected and punished; and our opponents, whether "gentlemen" or Plebeians, may rest assured that those who rise high enough to attract notice, will claim in due time our animadversion. If necessary we shall *embody* our old ally Dr. CAUSTIC, and send him out a "colonelling" among these dragons and griffins of criticism; and though the testy old Knight sometimes mistakes a *windmill* for a *giant*, he rarely fails to give a good account of his adversary. In the mean time, by way of fortifying ourselves, till we can find it convenient to meet our opponents, single handed, in the open field of controversy, we will oppose the following production to those who attack us on the score of possessing anti-American principles: and to those who affirm that we suffered by the ordeal of British criticism we will present the remarks of some respectable English reviews, on its appearance in England. This we perform the more readily, as the sentiments which this effusion contains, are appropriate to the present dreadful crisis of our public affairs—a crisis in which, unless the now dormant energies of our country are speedily roused into full action, we may sleep soundly and *dream* of liberty and Independence, till we are awakened by the clank of our chains.

AN ODE*.

—

Ye sons of Columbia unite in the cause
Of liberty, justice, religion, and laws;
Should foes then invade us, to battle we'll hie,
For the GOD OF OUR FATHERS will be our ally!
Let Frenchmen advance,
And all Europe join France,
Designing our conquest and plunder;
United and free
For ever we'll be,
And our cannon shall tell them in thunder,
That foes to our freedom we'll ever defy,
Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

When Britain assail'd us, undaunted we stood,
Defended the land we had purchas'd with blood,
Our liberty won, and it shall be our boast,
If the OLD WORLD united should menace our coast:—
Should millions invade,
In terror array'd,
Our liberties bid us surrender,
Our country they'd find
With bayonets lin'd,
And Washingtons here to defend her
For foes to our freedom we'll ever defy
Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

Should Bonapart come with his sans culottes band,
And a new sort of freedom we don't understand,
And make as an offer to give us as much
As France has bestow'd on the Swiss and the Dutch,
His fraud and his force
Will be futile of course;
We wish for no *Frenchified* Freedom:
If folks beyond sea
Are to bid us be free,
We'll send for them when we shall need 'em,
But sans culottes Frenchmen we'll ever defy;
Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

We're anxious that Peace may continue her reign,
We cherish the virtues which sport in her train;
Our hearts ever melt when the fatherless sigh,
And we shiver at horror's funereal cry!
But still, though we prize
That child of the skies,
We'll never like slaves be accosted;
In a war of defence
Our means are immense,
And we'll fight till our *all* is exhausted:
For foes to our freedom we'll ever defy,
Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

The EAGLE of FREEDOM with rapture behold,
Overshadow our land with his plumage of gold!

* *The above Ode was written, set to music, and sung on a public occasion, in Rutland, Vermont, July* 1798. *At that time the armament, which afterwards sailed to Egypt, under Bonaparte, lay at Toulon: its destination was not known in America, but many supposed that it was intended to waft the blessings of* French liberty *to the United States.*

The flood-gates of glory are open on high,
And Warren and Mercer descend from the sky!
They come from above
With a message of love,
To bid us be firm and decided;
" At Liberty's call,
" Unite one and all,
" For you conquer, unless you're divided.
" Unite, and the foes to your freedom defy,
" Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

" Americans, seek no occasion for war;
" The rude deeds of rapine still ever abhor:
" But if in defence of your rights you should arm,
" Let toils ne'er discourage, nor dangers alarm.
" For foes to your peace
" Will ever increase,
" If freedom and fame you should barter;
" Let those rights be yours
" While Nature endures,
" For OMNIPOTENCE gave you the charter!"
Then foes to our freedom we'll ever defy,
Till the continent sinks, and the ocean is dry!

The following are brief extracts from such English Reviews as mention this performance in particular, among others which were the subjects of their critiques.

The Monthly Review, which has been accused of partiality to Jacobin principles, but is conducted with more ability than is commonly found in publications which have fallen under that imputation, and whose editors may, perhaps, be said to be *reformed democrats*, speaking of this and other poems published in the same volume, observes:

" Some of the poems allude to political events in the western hemisphere; others describe the manners of the people in some parts of the United States; and wherever a proper opportunity occurs, the *author takes care to inculcate in the minds of his countrymen a spirit of manly independence and a rational love of liberty.* The Reviewers then quote the 5th and 6th stanzas of the above ode, and remark:

" We recommend these patriotic lines to the attention of our countrymen, as worthy of a great and independent nation."

Monthly Review for May, 1805.

" We have praised his talents for burlesque poetry; but the following song, as we should call it, is of a higher stamp, and has much original merit. The Reviewers then quote the above Ode, or " Song," and proceed in their remarks to point out specimens from the work entitled to notice, and tell us " Mr. Fessenden is seldom more successful, than when he is satirizing the profligate democrats of America."

British Critic for Feb. 1805.

The major part of these poems are humorous, and principally worthy of attention, for their delineation of rustic manners in New England. The patriotic ode in the beginning of the volume has much merit; and the few serious pieces that are inserted, afford a favourable specimen of the author's poetical talents, as well as of his political and moral principles."

Anti-Jacobin Review.

These are extracted from the three principal English Reviews. I might adduce the suffrages of, I think, thirteen different British Reviews in favour of the above-mentioned volume, and of Tractoration. Most of these criticisms were written after I left England, and all, not only without any improper influence or interference on my part, (as our Jacobins have hinted) but without even a personal acquaintance with a single Reviewer, and most of the articles were written after I left England.

My opponents in England, have been the Monthly Mirror, a thing *made to sell*, containing *pretty pictures* of *actresses*, &c. And the renowned Doctor ——, a famous *British critic*, and smuggler of literary wares, born in America, and an inhabitant of New-York.

Published for THOMAS GREEN FESSENDEN, at E. SARGEANT'S Bookstore, No. 39, Wall-street, opposite the U. S. Bank.
PRINTED BY HOPKINS AND SEYMOUR, AT WASHINGTON'S HEAD.